

iTILT Newsletter

October 2011



Welcome to the second edition of the iTILT newsletter, a quarterly publication aimed at keeping you informed as the project develops.

iTILT project progress

Some of the partners have now started the project training and you can read about progress in this newsletter. We will be using the training handbook and criteria for IWB materials design, as well as example IWB materials specially written by project partners as the basis of this training.

About iTILT

For those of you who are new to the project, iTILT (www.itilt.eu) is a European project which is exploring ways to integrate the interactive whiteboard into communicative language teaching, offering research-based resources in several languages including tips for language teachers, training materials, and examples of activities for learners of different levels and ages. As the project progresses, our website will offer classroom illustrations including class video clips with teacher and learner comments and related teaching materials.

About Interactive Whiteboards (IWBs)

Interactive whiteboards may look like normal whiteboards, but can significantly transform the language classroom. For this to happen, teachers need to be given adequate training and support in how to use the tool communicatively, to be aware of strategies and procedures for designing effective IWB materials, and to have the opportunity to reflect on their own practice.

In this newsletter you will find a summary of what we have been doing so far, and of IWB-related reports that you can read more about by going to our website.

The iTILT website

As you know, shortly after the beginning of the project in January 2011, the iTILT website (<http://itilt.eu>) was launched. This is how you can keep more closely up-to-date with what we are doing.

We also have a very strong social media presence, in order to connect with as many educators interested in and using IWBs as possible. You can follow us on **Twitter** (<http://twitter.com/ITiLTeu>), become our friends on **Facebook** (<http://tinyurl.com/itilt>) and connect to us via **LinkedIn** (<http://tinyurl.com/itilteu>)

You can also find out more by listening to our podcast (available on the website). These recordings have interviews with project partners and include tips on using IWBs as well as news and information on the iTILT project and using IWBs for language teaching.

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NEWS FROM OUR BLOG

On our blog, we hope to keep you informed about the most important developments regarding IWB research and practice. Below are just some of the latest stories we have been writing about.

Primary training in France: Cagnes sur Mer

The first iTILT training session for the French part of the project took place in the Jules Ferry primary school in Cagnes sur Mer. The main stages of data collection were discussed, followed by work with vocabulary materials for primary EFL. Read more here:

<http://itilt.eu/node/129>

iTILT workshop at Dutch national conference

TELLConsult's iTILT workshop proposal for the Dutch, national Conference of the association of language teachers Conference has been accepted. Find the abstract for the workshop entitled 'Towards quality features of IWB materials for the MFL Classroom' here:

<http://itilt.eu/node/125>

Designing good interactive whiteboard materials

At the recent British Council Teachers conference in Barcelona, Spain, a number of secondary school teachers were introduced to the iTILT project and criteria for 'Designing good interactive whiteboard materials' materials'. More about this on the blog:

<http://itilt.eu/node/139>

Research publications by iTILT partners

The recent edition of EuroCALL's academic journal ReCALL features articles on IWB use by foreign language (FL) teachers by Euline Cutrim Schmid and Shona Whyte. Read more about this here: <http://itilt.eu/node/124>

IWB in ICT at School in Europe 2011 report

In June the Key Data on Learning and Innovation through ICT at School in Europe 2011 report was published, featuring information about the state of the art regarding interactive whiteboards in European schools. Read more about this here: <http://itilt.eu/node/121>

iTILT at REAL-TICE

The iTILT project was present at the REAL-TICE project workshop in Madrid, Spain in June. A survey of teachers experience was conducted and then the project was presented along with example materials. Find out more about this on the blog: <http://itilt.eu>

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We hope you find the information in the newsletter of interest, and very much look forward to working with you all / further contact in the near future.

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